the recommendation of the Department touching the esthe recommendation of the Department touching the es-bablishment of a navy yard in conjunction with this dock on the Pacific. Such a station is highly necessary to the convenience and effectiveness of our fleet in that ocean, which must be expected to increase with the growth of commerce, and the rapid extension of our whale fisheries

over its waters.

The Naval Academy at Annapolis, under a revised and The Naval Academy at Annapolis, under a revised and improved system of regulations, new affords apportunities of education and instruction to the pupils quite equal, it is believed, for professional improvement, to those enjoyed by the cadets in the Military Academy. A large class of acting midshipmen was received at the commencement of the last academic term, and a practice ship has been attached to the institution, to afford the amplest means been attached to the institution, in seamanship, as well as for for regular instruction in seamanship, as well as for cruises during the vacations of three or four months in

The advantages of science in nautical affairs have rare-The advantages of science in nautical affairs have rarely been more strikingly illustrated than in the fact stated in the report of the Navy Department, that, by means of the wind and current charts, projected and prepared by Lieut. Maury, the Superintendent of the Naval Observatory, the passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific ports of our country has been shortened by about forty days.

The estimates for the support of the Navy and Marine Corps the ensuing fiscal year will be found to be \$5,856,472.19, the estimates for the current year being \$5,000.621

\$5,900,621.
The estimates for special objects under the control of this Department amount to \$2,684,220.89, against \$2,210,980 Department amount to \$2,684,220.89, against \$2,210,980 for the present year, the increase being occasioned by the additional mail service on the Pacific coast and the construction of the dock in California, authorized at the last session of Congress, and some slight additions under the head of improvements and repairs in navy yards, buildings, and machinery.

I deem it of much importance to a just economy, and a correct understanding of naval expenditures, that there should be an entire separation of the appropriations for the support of the naval service proper from those for permanent improvements at navy yards and stations, and from ocean steam-mail service, and other special objects assigned to the supervision of his Department.

The report of the Postmaster General, herewith communicated, presents an interesting view of the progress, operations, and condition of his Department.

At the close of the last fiscal year the length of mail routes within the United States was \$195,290 miles; the annual transportation thereon 53,272,252 miles; and the

annual transportation thereon 53,272,252 miles; and the annual cost of such transportation \$3,421,754.

The length of the foreign mail routes is estimated at

The whole number of post offices in the United States, on the 30th day of June last, was 19,796. There were 1,698 post offices established and 256 discontinued during the year.

The gross revenues of the Department for the fiscal

year, including the appropriations for the franked matter of Congress, of the Departments, and officers of Government, and excluding the foreign postages collected for and payable to the British post office, amounted to \$6,727,866.78.

and payable to the British post office, amounted to \$6,727,866.78.

The expenditures for the same period (excluding \$20,599.49, paid under an award of the Auditor, in pursuance of a resolution of the last Congress, for mail service on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers in 1832 and 1833, and the amount paid to the British post office for foreign postages collected for and payable to that office) amounted to \$6,024,566.79; leaving a balance of revenue over the proper expenditures of the year of \$703,299.99.

The receipts for postages during the year (excluding the foreign postages collected for and payable to the British post office) amounted to \$6,345,747.21; being an increase of \$997,610.79, or 18.65-100 per cent. over the like receipts for the preceding year.

The reduction of postage, under the act of March last, did not take effect until the commencement of the present fiscal year. The accounts for the first quarter, under the operation of the reduced rates, will not be settled before

fiscal year. The accounts for the first quarter, under the operation of the reduced rates, will not be settled before January next; and no reliable estimate of the receipts for the present year can yet be made. It is believed, however, that they will fall far short of those of the last year. The surplus of the revenues now on hand is, however, so large that no further appropriation from the Treasury, in aid of the revenues of the Department, is required for the current fiscal year; but an additional appropriation for the year ending June 30, 1853, will probably be found necessary when the receipts of the first two quarters of the fiscal year are fully ascertained.

In his last annual report the Postmaster General recommended a reduction of postage to rates which he deemed

In his last annual report the Postmaster General recom-mended a reduction of postage to rates which he deemed as low as could be prudently adopted, unless Congress was prepared to appropriate from the Treasury, for the support of the Department, a sum more than equivalent to the mail services performed by it for the Government. The recommendations of the Postmaster General, in respect to letter postage, except on letters from and to Cali-fornia and Oregon, were substantially adopted by the last Congress. He now recommends adherence to the present letter rates, and advises against a further reduction until

justified by the revenue of the Department.

He also recommends that the rates of postage on printed matter be so revised as to render them more simple, and more uniform in their operation upon all classes of

olic statutes of the United States have now been The public statutes of the Chited States have been accumulating for more than sixty years, and, interspersed with private acts, are scattered through numerous volumes, and, from the cost of the whole, have become almost interpretation. and, from the cost of the whole, have become almost inaccesible to the great mass of the community. They also
exhibit much of the incongruity and imperfection of hasty
legislation. As it seems to be generally conceded that
there is no "common law" of the United States to supply
the defects of their legislation, it is most important that
that legislation should be as perfect as possible, defining
every power intended to be conferred, every crime intended to be made punishable, and prescribing the punishment
to be inflicted. In addition to some particular cases
spoken of more at length, the whole criminal code is now
lamentably defective. Some offences are imperfectly described, and others are entirely omitted; so that flagrant
crimes may be committed with impunity. The scale of
punishment is not in all cases graduated according to the
degree and nature of the offence, and is often rendered
more unequal by the different modes of imprisonment, or
penitentiary confinement, in the different States.

Many laws of a permanent character have been intro-

Many laws of a permanent character have been intro-aced into appropriation bills, and it is often difficult to Many laws of a permanent character have been intro-duced into appropriation bills, and it is often difficult to determine whether the particular clause expires with the temporary act of which it is a part, or continues in force. It has also frequently happened that enactments and pro-visions of law have been introduced into bills, with the visions of law have been introduced into bills, with the title or general subject of which they have little or no connexion or relation. In this mode of legislation so many enactments have been heaped upon each other, and often with but little consideration, that, in many instances, it is difficult to search out and determine what is the law.

The Government of the United States is emphatically a Government of written laws. The statutes should therefore, as far as practicable, not only be made accessible to

fore, as far as practicable, not only be made accessible to all, but be expressed in language so plain and simple as to be understood by all, and arranged in such method as to give perspicuity to every subject. Many of the States have revised their public acts with great and manifest benave revised their public acts with great and manifest be-nefit; and I recommend that provision be made by law for the appointment of a commission to revise the public sta-tutes of the United States, arranging them in order, sup-plying deficiencies, correcting incongruities, simplifying their language, and reporting them to Congress for its

An act of Congress, approved 30th of September, 1850, contained a provision for the extension of the Capitol, ac-cording to such plan as might be approved by the Presi-dent, and appropriated one hundred thousand dollars to dent, and appropriated one hundred thousand dollars to be expended under his direction, by such architect as he should appoint to execute the same. On examining the various plans which had been submitted by different ar-

should appoint to execute the same. On examining the various plans which had been submitted by different architects, in pursuance of an advertisement by a committee of the Senate, no one was found to be entirely satisfactory, and it was therefore deemed advisable to combine and adopt the advantages of several.

The great object to be accomplished was to make such an addition as would afford ample and convenient halls for the deliberations of the two Houses of Congress, with sufficient accommodations for spectators, and suitable apartments for the committees and officers of the two branches of the Legislature. It was also desirable not to mar the harmony and beauty of the present structure, which, as a specimen of architecture, is so universally admired. Keeping these objects in view, I concluded to make the addition by wings, detached from the present building, yet connected with it by corridors. This mode of enlargement will leave the present Capitol uninjured, and afford great advantages for ventilation and the admission of light, and will enable the work to progress without interrupting the deliberations of Congress. To carry this plan into effect I have appointed an experienced and competent architect. The corner-stone was laid on the 4th day of July last, with suitable ceremonies, since which time the work has advanced with commendable rapidity, and the foundations of both wings are now nearly complete.

I again commend to your favorable regard the interests of the District of Columbia, and deem it only necessary to

I again commend to your favorable regard the interests of the District of Columbia, and deem it only necessary to remind you, that although its inhabitants have no voice in the choice of Representatives in Congress, they are not the less entitled to a just and liberal consideration in your legislation. My opinions on this subject were more fully expressed in my last annual communication.

Other subjects were brought to the attention of Congress in my last annual message, to which I would respectfully refer. But there was one of more than ordinary interest to which I again invite your special attention. I slude to the recommendation for the appointment of a commission to settle private claims against the United States. Justice to individuals as well as to the Government imperatively demands that some more convenient and expeditions mode than an appeal to Congress should be adopted.

It is deeply to be regretted that in several instances officers of the Government, in attempting to execute the law for the return of fugitives from labor, have been openly resisted, and their efforts frustrated and defeated by law-less and violent mobs; that in one case such resistance resulted in the death of an estimable citizen, and in others serious injury ensued to those officers and to individuals who were using their endeavors to sustain the laws. Prosecutions have been instituted against the alleged offenders, so far as they could be identified, and are still pending. I have regarded it as my duty, in these cases, to give all aid legally in my power to the enforcement of the laws, and I shall continue to do so wherever and whenever their execution may be resisted.

The act of Congress for the return of fugitives from labor is one required and demanded by the express words of the Constitution.

The Constitution declares "that no person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escapting into another, shall, in consequence of any law or re-

The Constitution declares "that no person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due." This constitutional provision is equally obligatory upon the Legislative, the Executive, and Judicial Departments of the Government, and upon every citizen of the United States.

Congress, however, must from necessity first act upon the subject, by prescribing the proceedings necessary to ascertain that the person is a fugitive, and the means to be used for his restoration to the claimant. This was done by an act passed during the first term of President Washington, which was amended by that enacted by the last Congress, and it now remains for the Executive and Judicial Departments to take eare that these laws be faithfully executed. This injunction of the Constitution is as peremptory and as binding as any other; it stands exactly on the same foundation as that clause which provides for the return of fugitives from justice, or that which declares that no bill of attainder or expost factor by of taxation, according to the census, or the clause declaring that all duties shall be uniform throughout the United States, or the important provision that the trial of all crimes shall be by jury. These several articles and clauses of the Constitution, all resting on the same authority, must stand or fall together. Some objections The length of the foreign mail routes is estimated at 18,349 miles; and the annual transportation thereon at 615,206 miles. The annual cost of this service is \$1,472,187, of which \$448,937 is paid by the Post Office Department, and \$1,023,250 is paid through the Navy Department.

The annual transportation within the United States (excluding the service in California and Oregon, which is now, for the first time, reported and embraced in the tabular statements of the Department) exceeds that of the preceding year 6,162,855 miles, at an increased cost of \$547,110.

The whole number of post offices in the United States. quirement of the Constitution. Fortunately, the number of these persons is comparatively small, and is believed to be daily diminishing; but the issue which they present is one which involves the supremacy and even the exist-

Cases have heretofore arisen in which individuals have Cases have heretofore arisen in which individuals have denied the binding authority of acts of Congress, and even States have proposed to nullify such acts, upon the ground that the Constitution was the supreme law of the land, and that those acts of Congress were repugnant to that instrument; but nullification is now aimed, not so much against particular laws as being inconsistent with the Constitution, as against the Constitution itself; and it is not to be disguised that a spirit axists and has been estimated that a spirit axists and has been estimated that

disguised that a spirit exists and has been actively at work to rend asunder this Union, which is our cherished inhe-ritance from our revolutionary fathers.

In my last annual message I stated that I considered the series of measures which had been adopted at the prethe series of measures which had been adopted at the previous session, in reference to the agitation growing out of the Territorial and slavery questions, as a final settlement, in principle and substance, of the dangerous and exciting subjects which they embraced; and I recommended adherence to the adjustment established by those measures, until time and experience should demonstrate the necessity of further legislation to guard against evasion or abuse. I was not induced to make this recommendation because I thought those measures perfect, for no human legislation can be perfect. Wide differences and jarring opinions can only be reconciled by yielding something on all sides, and this result had been reached after an angry conflict of many months, in which one part of the country was armany months, in which one part of the country was arrayed against another, and violent convulsion seemed to be imminent. Looking at the interests of the whole country, I felt it to be my duty to seize upon this Compromise as the best that could be obtained amid conflicting interests, and

best that could be obtained amid conflicting interests, and to insist upon it as a final settlement, to be adhered to by all who value the peace and welfare of the country. A year has now elapsed since that recommendation was made. To that recommendation I still adhere; and I congratulate you and the country upon the general acquiescence in these measures of peace which has been exhibited in all parts of the Republic. And not only is there this general acquissionse in these measures, but the spirit of conciliation which has been manifested in regard to cerning the durability of our popular institutions, and given renewed assurance that our Liberty and our Union given renewed assurance that our may subsist together for the benefit of this and all suc ceeding generations. MILLARD FILLMORE. WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 2, 1851.

A LETTER FROM THE DELEGATE TO CONGRESS

UNITED STATES HOTEL, WASHINGTON.

DECEMBER 1, 1851. Messrs. Gales & Seaton: Upon my arrival in this city I am met by statements in circulation injurious to the character of my constituents and of Governor Young, of Utah Territory: and, after a general inquiry, which I have without other authority than a letter which appeared in your columns, stated to be from "a judicial officer," and dated Great Salt Lake City, September 20, 1851.

The statements of this letter are essentially incorrect Its accusations are mainly based upon aspersions alleged to have been cast upon the memory of the Taylor by Governor Young, on the occasion of the celebration of the anniversary of the 24th of July. At that bration of the anniversary of the 24th of July. At that celebration your (supposed) letter writer was not present, not having arrived till some time after the organization of the Territory. But I was present, and am able to inform you, upon my own responsibility, that the Governor's remarks upon that occasion included no strictures whatever upon Gen. Taylor's character or public services, nor in fact any allusion to him at all, that I can remember. The celebration was made the opportunity, as it always has been by the patriotic people of Great Salt Lake City, for repeatedly renewed expressions of their enthusiastic attachment to their beloved country.

When I left Utah, nineteen days after the date of the

letter to which you gave publication, peace and quiet prevailed every where, and unbroken harmony and good feel-

under our California prices.

Under these circumstances, and in view of the fact that no communications have been received from the Salt Lake since these charges were made, or can be expected for some time to come, I ask that you will be good enough to request a suspension of public opinion upon the charges to which you have given circulation, until further and more authentic intelligence is received from Utah Territory.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

JOHN M. BERNHISEL,

Delegate from Utah.

TO THE EDITORS.

WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 28, 1851. GENTLEMEN: In your paper of the 7th instant appeared an extract from the description contained in the "New York Commercial Advertiser" of the dinner given by certain citizens of New York to the officers of the recently returned Arctic Expedition. The writer of that article, in the course of his description, says: "An object of much, interest was exhibited at the lower end of the room. It was the American flag which Commodore Wilkes carri-ed in his Antarctic Expedition and Lieut. Dr Haven in his Arctic. It bore an inscription to the effect that it was at the service of any who would carry it further."

My object is simply to state that that flag was worn at the peak of the schooner "Flying Fish," a New York pilot boat of ninety tons burden, bought into the service,

and without receiving any additional strength of frame, sailed as one of the Wilkes Expedition in 1838, and the little preparation she did receive the better to enable her to perform the arduous cruise assigned her was given her

t "Orange Bay," "Tierra del Fuego."
That little schooner, under Lieut. Wm. M. WALKER, his entire crew, officers and men, numbering thirteen souls all told, did on the 24th March, 1839, penetrate to 70° 14′ south latitude, the highest point attained by the Expedisouth latitude, the highest point attained by the Expedition. And when, ten years afterwards, the Grinnell Expedition was fitting out, Lieut. Walken sent that identical flag to Mr. Grinnell that it might be known in the arctic as well as in the antarctic regions.

· WASHINGTON.

" Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1851. THE THIRTY-SECOND CONGRESS

Once again, we have witnessed, in the opening of following: new Congress, the renovation of the Legislative bodies; the flow of young blood into the veins of the Government; and its consequent renewed and reinvigorated action.

The assembling of Congress at the seat of govern ment is a spectacle which can never be without interest to any man capable of realizing the them second in interest only to the Message itself. beauty and harmony of our political system, or sensible of the advantages which its action secures to him as an individual and to the millions of his fel- our Foreign Relations as is proper to be made low-men who live under it. To the simple grandeur of this spectacle may we and our readers never be Message. indifferent!

confessedly an experiment, the success of which was opening of the session. doubted by some even here, and by many in the European world, who, though enlightened friends of any Esport, either to the President or to Congress, America, had their eyes intently fixed upon us, after unless when specially called upon to do so. the termination of the Revolutionary struggle, hoping, rather than believing, that good government would succeed to the reaction and listlessness which quered their freedom from foreign thrall; but they shall probably at a future day have something tohad yet before them a perhaps more difficult task. that of subduing their separate interests and aspirations, and uniting all the external powers-all those by which national existence is established and recognised-under one common Government

One of those Europeans, who, though an English man and a nobleman, had, throughout the Revolu tionary struggle, heartily favored the cause of the Colonies, understood and delineated with remarks. ble precision the problem which, after the acknowledgment of their independence, this young people had yet to solve. It was Horace Walpole, who in one of his public letters to the Countess of Ossory, (in January, 1783,) on hearing of the news of the conclusion of Peace, wrote as follows: " My " wish was to have peace, and, next, to see America secure of its liberty. Whether it will make a good use of it is another point. It has an opportunity that never occurred in the world before of being "stitution; but I suppose it will not, as too pledged against royalty to adopt it even as a corrective of aristocracy and democracy, though our system has proved that every evil had better have two enemies to contend with than one, as the third may turn the scale on every emergence; but, short, it is necessary that there should be Government; but that government should be checked as much as those it controls, for one man, or a few, or a "fore they acquire the boundless latitude they he sitate or latter in their duty to the country at tims important period, but that some gentleman would offer a resolution upon this subject for the consideration and action which he had been appointed, he was always found equal perity of the city of Charleston furnished by the shown, are such as scarce ever have been realized."

No waking dream could have been more exactly realized in the event than was this "vision" of an experienced statesman, who, devoted as he was to the courage of her People to accomplish any thing so near perfection as this Government of ours, constructed as it was of the best parts of every known Constitution-a Government that is a Government. and yet "checked as much as those whom it controls." Old as he was when he dreamed this dream, Walpole yet lived long enough not only to witness taken the liberty to extend to the President find them its realization, but to see his beau ideal of a Government in full operation till nearly the close of the Administration of WASHINGTON, at that time the

object of his and of the world's admiration. With what complete success this "experiment' of Government has worked, from that day to this, the growth, the population, development of resources, and rapidly increasing wealth of our country, abundantly testify. There is nothing in history to parallel it, and probably never will be. Well may we contemplate, with increasing reverence, the miracle of its structure.

If, at the opening of each Session of Congress and especially of each new Congress, we have regarded with complacency the continued triumph of Representative Government, we may honestly exult in the now recurring evidence of the strength of this Union. presented to each party came in identically the same vailed every where, and unbroken harmony and good feeling between the officers of the Government and the peeple of the Territory. The pacific character of our people, and the paternal relations which they cultivate towards each other, had, indeed, as yet left the courts without an entry for their dockets; but Governor Young had cheerfully acceded to the request of the Judges and Secretary to affix his name to a petition to Congress, of which I am the bearer, praying for an augmentation of the salaries of the Territorial officers, on account of the expense of living, under our California prices.

Under these circumstances and in view of the fact that their constituents.

The latest accounts from the RIO GRANDE inform us that the defence of Matamoros had been strengthened by the arrival there of eight hundred men, under Gen. URAGA. It is also reported that Carvajal, the insurgent leader, had received considerable reinforcements, but not sufficient as yet to encourage him to renew active operations.

LOUISIANA ELECTION.

The New Orleans papers confirm the report of the election to Congress of JOHN MOORE, Whig, from the fourth district of Louisiana, heretofore repre sented by ISAAC E. MORSE, Democrat.

The only officer chosen by a vote of the State

The Whigs have a majority in the State Legis-

RESIGNATION OF THE MEXICAN MINISTER. - La Chronica, the Spanish paper published at New York, in its number of Saturday, makes the following announcement :

We are assured that the Government of Mexico has finally accepted the resignation of Don Luis DE LA ROSA, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Washington, which he has repeatedly tendered. This worthy functionary, it appears, is about to take charge of sleet on the Western Plains, by which one man and the civil government of the State of Zacatecas, to which seventy mules belonging to the Government were he has been elected by the popular vote of that State." | frozen to death,

THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL MESSAGE. AND REPORTS FROM THE DIFFERENT DEPART-MENTS ACCOMPANYING THE SAME.

We have taken some pains to present to our readers, at one view, in this day's paper, the MESSAGE of the PRESIDENT of the United States to the two Houses of Congress, with the OFFICIAL REPORTS from the Heads of Departments which accompanied the same. These Reports embrace the

1. The Report of the Secretary at War. 2. The Report of the Secretary of the Navy.

3. Report of the Secretary of the Interior.

4. Report of the Postmaster General. These REPORTS are severally addressed to the

PRESIDENT of the United States, and are all of The Department of State makes no annual Report to the President, such information of the condition of public being usually embodied in the President's

The annual Report of the Secretary of the Trea-When, through the happiest possible combination sury is addressed, under direction of law, to Conof wisdom, and patriotism, and circumstance, this gress, and not to the President, and is generally Government was established by the People, it was transmited to Congress within a few days after the

The Attorney-General has no oscasion to make

Our eaders are furnished with too much reading matter of high interest in the Official Papers which Documents which, so to speak, form part of it.

MEETING OF THE WHIG MEMBERS OF THE

In pursuance of public notice, a meeting of the Whig Members of the House of Representatives was held on Monday morning last, at the Capitol. Between fifty and sixty Members being present

on motion of Mr. MARSHALL, of Kentucky, the meeting was organized by the appointment of Mr. OUTLAW of North Carolina, Chairman, and Mr. Moore of Pennsylvania, Secretary.

The Chairman having stated that the meeting was ready to hear any proposition that might be

Mr. Blooks, of New York, said that he supposed one of the man objects of the meeting was to consult as to the proprety of making a nomination for Speaker of the "that never occurred in the world before of being House, and remarked that, in view of the large majority able to select the best parts of every known Connagainst them, his opinion was that it would be inexpedient to make such a nomination, but that each member should be left to exercise his own judgment when the time for action arrived.

The views of Mr. Brooks seeming to be universally ac-

ouiescedin by the meeting-Mr. WILLIAMS, of Tennessee, said that if there was n further tusiness before the meeting, he would suggest the when the one defeats the other, it is decisive. In propriet of adjourning, and accordingly made the motion : which however, he withdrew at the request of-

Mr. Evans, of Maryland, who said that he hoped the meeting would not adjourn without taking some action upon a subject of great and momentous importance to the multitude, are still men, and consequently not fit to country, and a question which they would inevitably be be trusted with unlimited power. The misfortune compelled to meet here or elsewhere; that subject was "is, that men cannot be trusted with the power of doing doing right without having the power of doing wrong too, and, the more you limit them, they earnestly hoped that the Representatives of the wing parpant for greater latitude. However, the more ty there assembled, a majority of whom he was pleased to and industry, and of his eminent qualifications for the they are limited, the further they have to go beserve from the non-slaveholding States, would not high office he filled. fore they acquire the boundless latitude they besitate or falter in their duty to the country at this im-

the first time, in the capacity of a Representative in Con- tinguish himself by the extent and accuracy of his inforgress, and that he came there not only as a Whig, but as mation upon every subject connected with his official a Union Whig, a Compromise Whig; and in that spirit duties, or upon which he was at any time called upon to America and her cause, doubted the consistency and and feeling he had prepared a resolution embodying in act. The same learning and the same untiring industry substance the principles of the President's Message upon marked his brief course on this Bench. We all feel that this subject, which he would offer for the consideration of we have lost in him an able, upright, and learned assothe meeting, in the following words:

" Resolved, That we regard the series of acts known as the adjustment measures, as forming, in their mutual dependence and connexion, a system of compromise the most
conciliating and the best for the entire country that could
be obtained from conflicting sectional interests and
opinions; and that therefore they ought to be adhered to
and carried into faithful execution, as a final settlement,
in principle and substance, of the dangerous and exciting
subject which they embrace."

Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, in a few remarks, said

that he considered a resolution of that kind unnecessary and injudicious, as it was the same rock upon which the Whig party had split two years ago, and he therefore hoped it would not be passed.

Mr. Fowler, of Massachusetts, said that he would not consent to be bound by the principles of that resolution ; and, in order to test the sense of the meeting upon it, he would move to lay it on the table.

Mr. Marshall, of Kentucky, said he was not particular about forms, and he was willing the test should be applied in the form suggested by the gentleman from Massachusetts Indeed, he thought it would probably be the best and most effective, since he understood that it was the same form in which the test had been applied in the Democratic caucus. It would serve eminently well to indicate to the country the real position of gentlemen when the matter form; and, since the Democratic party had voted down a similar resolution, he thought it became the duty of the Whigs to take their true position. If the views of the gentleman from Massachusetts were to prevail the path of by which the polls can be kept open more than one

duty was a plain one to him. Mr. WILLIAMS, of Tennessee, then moved the previou

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, said he hoped the mo tion would be withdrawn, to enable him to amend the resolution, which was refused.

The vote was then taken upon the motion to lay upo the table, and the motion was lost by a decided majority. Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, Mr. Fowler, of Massachusetts, and one or two other gentlemen, whose names were not known to the officers of the meeting, then with-

The motion was then put upon the original resolution which was carried with but two or three dissenting voices; and, on motion of Mr. WILLIAMS, the meeting adjourned.

DAVID OUTLAW, Chairman.

HENRY D. MOORE, Secretary.

SANDWICH ISLANDS POSTAGE. We are requested to state that, by the last arrival from San Francisco, information has been received

at the Post Office Department of the reduction of cisco must be prepaid, leaving the Hawaiian portion to be collected at Honolulu.

The Postmaster of San Francisco reports that the

intercourse between that place and the Islands is rapidly increasing, and that the mails to and from each point are as regular as can be secured by sailing

Telegraphic accounts from Independence (Mo. state that there had been a heavy fall of rain and SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1851. At the opening of the Court, the Hon. J. J. CRITTENDEN, Attorney General of the United States, rose and remarked substantially as follows: As an Officer of this Court, and at the request of its Bar, it becomes my duty to submit a brief and imperfect expression of our common regret for the loss of the dis-tinguished member of this Court whose death this nation

has recently been called upon to deplore. Judge Woodbony was a man who for a long series of years occupied a most conspicuous position. The continued confidence reposed in him by his country, and the numerous honors which he shared, all testify to his greatness, and will be his noblest monument.

It has rarely happened that any citizen has enjoyed such a succession of exalted public honors as were shared by Judge Woodbury. Governor, Secretary of the Treasury, Senator, and, his last and greatest distinction, Judge of the Sapreme Court of the United States, whose jurisdiction is more extended than any other upon the conti-nent, and whose mandate is obeyed from Boston to San Brancisco: all these honors, one after the other, were worn by him; but neither they nor any other human distinction could save him to us any longer. He has fallen in the midst of his earthly honors; he has fallen as all of us must fall, and left with us only his fame, which is

Judge Woodbury was a man who were his honors. great as they were, meekly; and it was his distinguishing merit that he thought much less of them than of the duties they entailed.

The Bar of this Court deeply deplore the loss which they have sustained; and, not doubting the fervent sym-pathy of this Court with them, I feel that my duty will se discharged by offering the resolutions which embody the sentiments of this Bar, and by requesting, at their naturally and necessarily followed the excitement of a seven years war. The States had indeed con-

> say upon the leading topics of the Message and the These resolutions are embodied in the ronowing proceedings of the Bar :

At a meeting of the Members of the Bar and Officers of the Court, held in the Supreme Court room on Monday, the 1st of December, 1851, JONATHAN MEREDITH, Esq., of Maryland, was called to the chair, and ALEXANDER H. LAWRENCE, Esq., of Washington, appointed

Secretary.
On motion of RICHARD S. COXE, Esq. it was resolved that a committee of three gentlemen be appointed by the Chair to prepare and report to this meeting appropriate resolu-tions on the occasion of the lamented death of the late Hon. LEVI WOODBURY, one of the Associate Justices of

Whereupon the Chair appointed the Hon. REVERDY JOHNSON, of Maryland, RICHARD S. COXE, Esq., of Washington, and R. H. GILLET, Esq., of New York, to constiute said committee.

Mr. Johnson, on behalf of the committee, reported the

"Resolved, That the Supreme Court, the Bar, and the Nation have sustained in the death of the Hon. Levi Woodburn a loss of extensive learning, indefatigable industry, unsuspected integrity, and high abilities. After filling with great reputation some of the most important offices under the National and State Governments, his elevation to the Bench was received with general satisfaction, and his premature and unexpected death with universal regret. "Resolved, That this meeting lament the death of Judge

WOODBURY, in the prime of life and usefulness, and that we will wear the usual badge of mourning during the residue of the term.
"Resolved, That the Chairman and Secretary transmit copy of these resolution to the family of the deceased,

and assure them of our sincre condolence on account of the bereavement which they have experienced. "Resolved, That the Attorney General be requested to move the Court that these resolutions be entered on the minutes of their proceedings.

JONATHAN MEREDITH, Chairman

A. H. LAWRENCE, Secretary. Whereupon Mr. Chief Justice TANEY replied: The Court is very sensible of the loss it has sustained n the death of Judge WOODBURY. He had been a member of the Court but a few years, yet-he was long enough on the Bench to leave behind him, in the reports of the decisions of the Court, the proofs of his great learning

His life had been passed mainly in the public service Mr. HAVEN, of New York, said that he was there, for to the duties imposed upon him, and never failed to disciate, and most truly and sincerely deplore his death and we cordially unite with the Bar in the resolutions they have presented, and shall order them to be entered on the records of the Court.

VIRGINIA ELECTION.

The first popular election for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General of VIRGINIA takes place on Monday next. Members of the State Senate and House of Delegates are also to be chosen, who, in accordance with the provisions of the new Constitution, will supersede those recently elected. We republish the names of the candidates of both parties for State officers, as follows:

Whigs. Democrats.
For Gov. Geo. W. Summers. Jos. Johnson. Lt. Gov. Samuel Watts. Shelton F. Leake. Att. Gen. Sidney S. Baxter. Willis P. Bocock.

At this election, it should be remembered, every white male citizen of the Commonwealth of the age of twenty-one years, who has been a resident of the State for two years, and of the county, city, or town where he offers to vote for twelve months next preceding the election, is entitled to vote, provided he be 31st, gives a different version of the whole affair. They say: of sane mind, and not employed in the military, naval, or marine service of the United States.

The former law of Virginia is continued in force, day, if bad weather or other circumstances shall render it necessary.

A Washington correspondent of the Journal Commerce gives, as one of the latest rumors of the day, that Mr. FILLMORE has, in reply to some friends who kindly offered their services, distinctly stated that he would not be a candidate for the next Presidency. We beg leave (says the Philadelphia Inquirer) to discredit this story. Mr. Fillmore, we incline to the opinion, will neither seek nor decline the office. If, however, the nomination should be tendered him by the Whig National Convention, it is not at all likely that he would refuse it. The true condition of the case is probably stated in the Buffalo Commercial, thus: "Mr. Fillmore is in the hands of the Whig party. If the National Conven-tion shall determine that his nomination will ensure success to the Whig party, he will feel bound to ac-

And so with every other prominent Whig in the The only officer chosen by a vote of the State at large was the Auditor, and Mr. Bordelou, the Whig candidate, is elected.

The Whigs have a majority in the State Legis-CLAY has troops of friends. The claims and merits regular United States inland postage to San Fran- of all these gentlemen, and perhaps of one or two more, will be submitted to the National Convenmore, will be submitted to the National Convention, and the decision of that body will be regarded as final and binding upon every true-hearted Whig in the land. One thing is certain, the office is of so high a character that the purest and loftiest ambition may legitimately aspire to its honors, and, with so many distinguished men in the Whig party, the nomination is not likely to go a begging.

[Baltimore Ame

The navigation of the New York canals is closed. As many as a thousand boats are reported to be frozen in shore Schenectady. They appeared to be rejected at his departure."

PROPOSED DIVISION OF CALIFORNIA

The General Convention to consider and mature a plan for the division of the State of California met at Santa Barbara on the 20th of October and, after a rather inharmonious session of thre days, adjourned on the 23d. It was composed of thirty-one delegates, representing the counties of San Diego, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and Monterey. Resolutions were adopted detailing the grievances of the Southern people, urging the alleged necessity of division, providing for the transmission of copies of the resolutions and proceedings of the Convention to the Governor and to each Representative and Senator in the State Legislature, and re-questing the Representatives and Senators from the counties represented in the Convention to bring its proceedings before the Legislature at as early a period as possible. Previous to the adjournment, the San Diego delegation, with a single exception, and one or two other members, withdrew from the Convention, and refused to take any further part in the deliberations, because a new proposition was intro-duced by a member from Los Angeles relative to defining a line of separation between the northern and southern parts of the State.

The California papers evidently look upon the movement for division as a failure, for the present at least, because of absence of unanimity among its advocates. The "Alta California" says that the Convention "accomplished nothing in favor of the much-talked-of movement."

The House of Delegates of SOUTH CAROLINA has again before it a bill proposing to give to the People the election of Electors of President and Vice Pre-sident of the United States. It is expected to be warmly discussed.

given of a bill for ealling together the State Convention, elected last winter, to take measures for the secession of the State; which elicited a counter protion of separate secession as finally and conclusively settled by the recent vote of the State. The proposition lies over for future consideration

The National Council of the CHEROKEE INDIANS has passed an act, in conformity to the suggestion of their Chief, John Ross, authorizing him to call together the people in order to obtain their assent to a retrocession of the "Neutral Land" to the United States Government. The Cherokee "Advocate" says that this is the only possible plan to liquidate the debt of that nation, and that the strip of country proposed to be transferred is so detached from the proper limits of the Nation, and it is so difficult to enforce the execution of the laws over it, that its possession by the Cherokees is rather an in cumbrance than a benefit.

NEW YORK BANQUET TO CAPT. SANDS AND HIS OFFICERS.—A complimentary dinner was given at the Astor House on Saturday evening by the Corporation of the city of New York, to Capt. SANDS and and the other officers of the United States frigate St. Lawrence. The dinner was superb. In the ab sence of the Mayor, Alderman STURTEVANT presided. After the removal of the cloth, the chairman very felicitously introduced the first regular toast, "The President of the United States;" which was responded to briefly by Mr. Collector Max-well.. The second toast, "Our guests, Commander SANDS and the Officers of the Frigate St. Lawrence," of course brought Capt. SANDS to his feet. He was very imperfectly heard, even by those who sat near him. Modesty and warm-heartedness, however, were blended in his remarks. "The Army" was responded to by Col. GARDNER, who concluded with a sentiment the repetition of which was en-enthusiastically called for: "Our Republican No-bility: those distinguished in all the useful occupa-tions of life." Further toasts were responded to hy Captain BREEZE, of the Navy, OGDEN HOFFMAN, Esq., Lieut. AVERY, Judge CAMPBELL, Messrs. LUTHER R. MARSH, CHARLES A. DANA, H. J. RAYMOND, SIMEON DRAPER, Rev. Dr. CUMMINGS

eading "Secession" paper of South Carolina :

FROM THE CHARLESTON MERCURY OF NOVEMBER 21. There are but few cities in the Union more rapidly improving than CHARLESTON. For the last two years a house has hardly ever been two days without a tenant; and, although they are built as fast as the materials can be procured, still a number is wanted, and very many families are compelled to board out. Often, when there is even nothing unusual to attract visiters, our hotels are overcrowded. Property is daily enhancing in value, and places for a long time unsaleable are now anxiously inquired for. With such a state of things at present, what may we expect when the Charlotteville, Wilmington, and Greenville railroads are completed, without alluding to those

progressing in the West?

Besides all this, it is a remarkable fact that when a city gets a population of fifty to sixty thousand inhabitants, it makes resources within itself. We have an abundance of gets a population of nity to sixty
makes resources within itself. We have an abundance of
capital; and, superadded to all the prospects we refer to,
our citizens have been aroused at last to the importance
our citizens have been aroused at last to the importance

Our contiguous country, too, shares in this revival. Farms and plantations that have for years been unappropriated, have recently been purchased and put into culti-

THE CASE OF THE CLIPPER SHIP CHALLENGE. The report given by telegraph of the difficulty between Captain WATERMAN, of the Challenge, and his crew, is said to have been a gross exaggeration. It does not appear, from the California papers, that any body was murc by the captain and his mate, as the telegraph alleged, while the following extract from a letter from the consignees of the vessel at San Francisco, under date of October

"The Challenge arrived here on the 29th instant in beautiful order, her crew in a rather bad plight, having suffered from dysenters by which six men died, and three having been lost from the mizzen yard in a gale. Some of the sailors ran away before the ship came alongside the wharf, and related such shocking steries of the manner in which they had been treated that a great excitement was created amongst the boatmen and sailors on the wharf. The moment the ship arrived in dock her decks were covered with a mob, shouting for the captain and mate, to lynch them, and had the latter fallen into their hands it would have been impossible to have rescued them; but fortunately they escaped. It appears that it was the intention of the crew to seize the ship off Rio, murder the captain and mate, give her in command to one of their number, and go roving. This was attempted about twelve o'clock in the day; the mate was knocked down and

stabbed by the crew, but was rescued by the captain, who succeeded in bringing them to duty." This view of the matter changes its aspect altogether, and shows that Captain Waterman, in any severities he may have practised upon his crew, was only acting in self-

LATE AND INTERESTING VISIT TO JAPAN .- We find in our California files an interesting account of a recent visit to Japan, which appears to be somewhat of an improvement on the singular and jealous non-intercourse policy of that people, though they are still sufficiently afflicted that way :

"The brig Rose, Capt. Anderson, on her recent trip from Singapore to San Francisco, was disabled and com-pelled to make for the nearest port, which proved to be a village called Nipaking. in Japan, with a population of about 25,000. It is believed this is the first time a foreign vessel ever entered the port, and no sooner had Capt. market-house open, and an animated trade appeared to be going on. He was treated kindly, and furnished with